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COUNTRY East GermanyREPORT NO.

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TOPIC Military Information from the Letzling Heath and GardslebenEVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 13 August to 12 September 1953DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 7 October 1953REFERENCES PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 25X1

(to Army)

REMARKS

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1. On 11 September 1953, the wood camp east of Jaevenitz quartered personnel who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery and motor transport insignia; black-bordered crimson epaulets, black-bordered black epaulets and blue-bordered black epaulets; some of them with construction and signal insignia. Activity at the camp decreased. about 200 tents of which only part appeared to be occupied. Six sedans and 4 trucks were also seen at the camp. The saw frame set up on a forest lane east of the camp worked intermittently.

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2. Between 31 August and 11 September, the road between Jaevenitz and Uchtspringe was closed because of construction work. Work was being done from a point about 1 km west of Uchtspringe as far as Hottendorf. Traffic was rerouted via Jaevenitz and Truesdorf. The road is being widened to 8 to 10 meters. After 9 a.m. on 7 and 10 September, source heard firing by rocket launchers from the area south of Jaevenitz.

3. a rail shipment of 35 heavy tanks proceeded through Mahlwinkel en route from the direction of Tangerhütte toward Magdeburg about 5:50 p.m. on 2 September.² On 9 September, supply trucks proceeding through Mahlwinkel toward Letzling Heath.⁴

4. On 14 September, 2 new barracks buildings were nearing completion at the target range of Hillersleben-Sued.³

5. On 14 September, the wood camp at Neublanken was occupied to capacity

6.

- Between 19 August and 4 September, advanced combat practice firing, mostly by tanks, was conducted almost daily at the troop training grounds. On 1 September, a convoy of about 20 trucks, 10 light AA guns and 250 personnel proceeding through Neuenhofe en route from Haldensleben toward the north.

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On 2 September, a convoy of 15 trucks and 5 x 45-mm AT guns came from the direction of Magdeburg and proceeded toward the Neuplanken wood camp.

- 25X1 7. Between 19 August and 4 September, [] Soviet officers and EM tried to mix with the German population on Saturdays and Sundays. The military post commandant of Neuholdensleben was repeatedly seen drinking in public with the chief of the S D Kreis organization and VP officers. It was rumored that Soviet soldiers had been permitted to marry German women. On 23 August, there was a football match between a Soviet team from Camp Neuplanken and a German team of the tractor factory in Haldensleben. On this occasion, [] 30 trucks, 15 sedans, 1 military band and about 1,000 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery and motor traffic insignia; blue-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia; and some black-bordered crimson epaulets. []
- 25X1 [] the Soviet team had previously played against a German team in Dessau.¹
- 25X1 []
- 25X1 8. About 2:35 p.m. on 1 September, 4 SP guns were seen proceeding through Neuholdensleben railroad station toward Magdeburg. About 6:20 p.m., 2 boxcars loaded with ammunition, 1 boxcar loaded with personnel and 1 flatcar carrying truck [] and 1 field kitchen were seen proceeding through Neuholdensleben railroad station toward Magdeburg. About 7 a.m. on 6 September, two troop trains which had come from the direction of Magdeburg were unloaded at Haldensleben railroad station. Both trains carried 15 AA guns and a sizeable number of trucks mounting AA machine guns. []
- 25X1 []
- 25X1 9. After 10 September, the barracks installation at the northeastern exit of Hillersleben quartered a mixed AAA, artillery and tank unit of a total of 150 officers and about 700 EM. []
- 25X1 []
- 25X1 10. On 11 September, [] the female population did not dare to leave their houses without male protection after dark, because the number of rapes had increased recently. [] that the Soviet soldiers had been permitted to buy alcohol at German restaurants.
- 25X1 11. []
- 25X1 []
- 25X1 12. On 3 September, the Remonte Schule quartered a motorcycle unit. On 11 August, 13 motorcycles with sidecars [] and 4 radio trucks [] left the installation for exercises in the Zichtauer Hills; the unit returned to the barracks installation on 16 August. Between 23 August and 1 September, a small signal unit was observed practicing the construction of telephone lines in the Zichtauer Hills. When the unit returned to the barracks installation in the afternoon of 1 September, []
- 25X1 []
- 25X1 13. Between 13 and 18 August, an exercise was held in the area of the Fliegerhorst Kase ne. For this exercise, 12 trucks which towed mortars, 1 truck occupied by personnel and 1 jeep occupied by officers, arrived in the area from the direction of Ackendorf via Isenschibbe. []
- 25X1 [] The commanding officer of this unit was called Sklarov (fnu). []

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- 25X1 14. About 3:40 p.m. on 19 August, [] a convoy of 18 trucks
25X1 which towed mortars, 2 tank trucks and 1 jeep proceeding through
25X1 Letzlingen toward Born-Haldensleben. []
25X1 [] On 30 August, 25 flatcars,
25X1 6 boxcars and 1 passenger car which had come from the direction of
25X1 Stendal, were unloaded at Gardelegen railroad station. [] 22
25X1 trucks, 2 ambulances and 22 canvas-covered artillery pieces besides
25X1 officers and EM. []
25X1 []
25X1 []
25X1 1. [] Comment. The reduced occupation of the wood camp southeast of
25X1 Jävenitz is probably connected with increased training activities as
25X1 they are normally observed toward the end of the summer training period.
25X1 []
25X1 the Third Shock Army. The Soviet football team was probably formed by the
25X1 7th Gds Tank Div because a team of the division had previously played in
25X1 Dessau. []
25X1 []
25X1 2. [] Comment. [] component
25X1 units of the Third Shock Army were detrained in Gardelegen on 30 August. On
25X1 1 September, [] a tank detachment of the Eighth Gds
25X1 Army. [] a tank shipment []
25X1 [] was dispatched from Haldensleben to the Halle area. The shipment
25X1 observed on 2 September is probably identical with a tank shipment which was
25X1 seen [] on a siding of Wolmirstedt on the same day. []
25X1 []. On 6 September, two troop trains with component units of the
25X1 3d Gds AAA Div from Magdeburg were possibly unloaded in Haldensleben. Most of
25X1 []
25X1 3. [] Comment. It appears that component units of the 19th Gds Mecz Div
25X1 which had practiced in the Letzling Heath area, returned to their barracks
25X1 installation at the northeastern exit of Hillersleben on 10 September. It
25X1 is not yet clear, whether the two new barracks buildings mentioned were in
25X1 the billeting area of the barracks installation at the northwestern exit
25X1 of Hillersleben, as this was indicated by a previous report []
25X1 or whether these buildings have been erected at the beginning of the Hillers-
25X1 leben-Salchau target range. []
25X1 4. [] Comment. [] tank unit of the 19th Gds
25X1 Mecz Div in Hillersleben.
25X1 5. [] Comment. On 3 September, the Remonte Schule probably quartered the
25X1 unidentified motorcycle battalion of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div. []
25X1 []. The small signal unit observed probably belongs to the radar
25X1 set located northeast of the Remonte Schule. These data are no sufficient
25X1 evidence for the presence in the Fliegerhorst Kaserne of the 598th Mtz Rifle
25X1 Regt of the division. [] the mortar
25X1 unit belonged to the Third Shock Army.
25X1 6. [] Comment. The designation of SsU-1 for the SP gun equipped with a model
25X1 A-19 122-mm gun on an JS-2 chassis is reported for the first time. The model
25X1 1931/44 "A-19 S" 122-mm SP gun is not fitted with a muzzle brake. According to
25X1 observations made in East Germany, the model 1944 "D-25 S" 122-mm SP, which is
25X1 fitted with a muzzle brake is the most frequent type of SP gun. There is a
25X1 possibility that the SP gun without muzzle brake has been given the official
25X1 designation "SsU-1", while the SP gun with muzzle brake has been renamed
25X1 "JSsU-122".

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